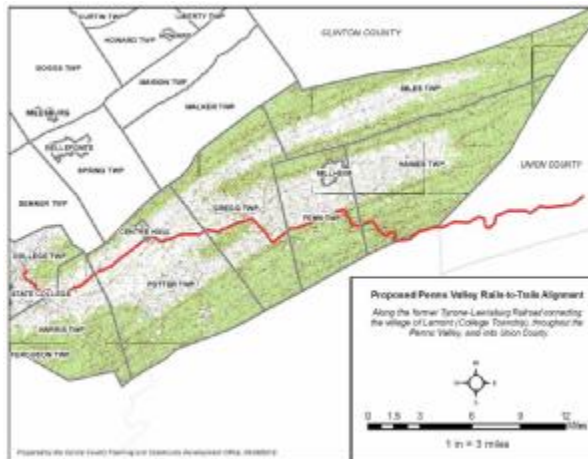


The Project

Conduct a detailed feasibility study of an approximately 33 mile non-motorized connection between parts of seven municipalities in the Penns Valley and Centre Regions.



Project Team

Gregg Township – Grantee, financial management

Centre County Planning – Administration, general project management, contribution of GIS data sets.

Steering Committee – Technical assistance and guidance

Consultant – Work as outlined in RFP

Public – Strong involvement is expected

Project Goals

1. Protect & enhance the existing rail corridor and ensure its viability for a recreational trail.
2. Determine the economic, environmental, political and social feasibility of constructing this trail.
3. Involve the general public in the development of the feasibility study

Project Goals

4. Provide opportunities to develop partnerships among private property owners, state and local government organizations and the private & non-profit sectors
5. Identify links between environmental protection, recreation opportunities and economic prosperity related to the trail

Scope of Work

- Background/Intent
- Study Purpose
- Legal Feasibility
- Demand for and Potential Use of Trail
- Physical Inventory and Assessment of the Right of Way
- Trail Concept Plan
- Trail Operation, Maintenance and Security
- Financial Feasibility
- Public Participation
- Executive Summary
- Final Products

Evaluation & Selection

- Completeness related to terms and conditions and the RFP
- All proposals will be evaluated on the following factors:
 - Technical & Professional Expertise
 - Experience
 - Distribution of work among team members
 - Methods & Procedures
 - Cost
 - Reference checks/reviews
- Short listed firms will be invited to attend an interview with presentation (August 1)

Questions To Date

We understand that a firm assisted with the initial grant development and offered an in-kind donation, does that firm have the advantage?

- A firm did in fact assist Gregg Township during the initial preparation of the grant proposal and did offer an in-kind donation.

However, they do not have an advantage in the selection process and the budget for this project does not account for that in-kind donation.

This is an open, competitive bid process and each firm will be evaluated equally based on the Evaluation/Selection process by a separate RFP Review Committee. This committee will make a recommendation to the Gregg Township Board of Supervisors for their selection.

Questions To Date

Has anyone collected the railroad valuation maps from the National Archives?

- To date, no we have not. We are compiling some historic data on the former rail line that we anticipate posting to the Centre County and Gregg Township websites either before or at the same time as the question and answer document (By June 15th). However, collecting the railroad valuation maps could be a consultant responsibility.

Questions To Date

Is there a detailed survey of the corridor?

- No. As mentioned, we are compiling some historic data on the former rail line that we anticipate posting to the Centre County and Gregg Township websites either before or at the same time as the question and answer document (By June 15th).

Questions To Date

How many structures (bridge, etc) are associated with this corridor?

- We are unsure at this time. We are looking into this as part of the ongoing research; however, final determination may be the responsibility of the consultant. Please note that this is strictly a feasibility study, and complete engineering assessment of the structures will not be required. We simply want best judgment of structural integrity at this stage.

Questions To Date

Will core borings be required as part of the trail bed analysis?

- No, again we are looking for best judgment of the integrity of the right-of-way to accommodate a trail surface in the future.

Questions To Date

The concept map in the RFP shows a significant portion in Union County, is that part of this study?

- No, as part of this study, we are not asking for a detailed evaluation of the Union County section. However, we will be looking for the consultant to offer recommendation on how to approach connections to facilities in Union County, as well as other possible links to facilities within Centre County.

Questions To Date

Are there any additional funding partners to this study?

- DCNR and Gregg Township are providing cash toward this study. The Centre County Planning & Community Development Office is providing in-kind service. There are no additional funding partners and no additional contributions are anticipated at this time.

Questions To Date

This is a detailed scope of work, is the budget sufficient for the study?

- We are aware that this is an aggressive scope of work. We'd like to stress that this is a feasibility study and is of a conceptual nature; master planning on the separate phases of the implementation plan with more detailed analysis would be our next step.

Schedule

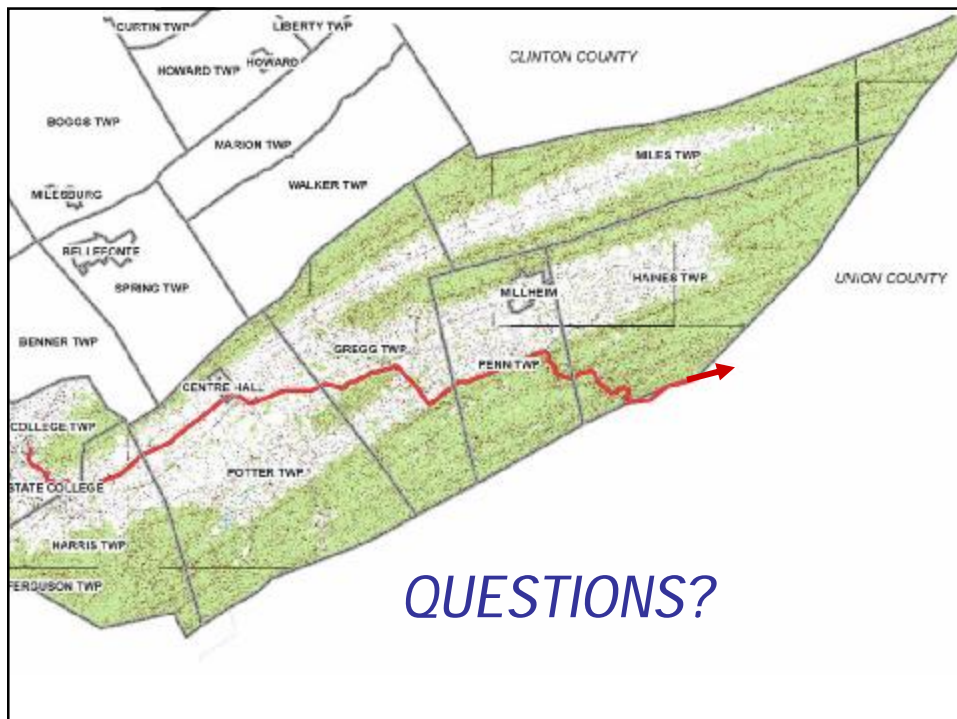
- **RFP Available:** May 24, 2012
- **Optional Pre-Bid Meeting:** June 1, 2012
- **Deadline to Submit Questions:** June 8, 2012
- **Deadline for Response to Questions:** June 15, 2012
- **Proposal Due Date:** July 6, 2012
- **RFP Opening:** July 12, 2012
- **Complete Evaluations:** July 27, 2012
- **Interviews (If necessary):** August 1, 2012
- **Selection by the Township:** August 9, 2012
- **Notice of Selection:** August 10, 2012
- **Negotiation of Contract:** August 17, 2012
- **DCNR Review of Contract:** August 24, 2012
- **Initiation of Service:** August 31, 2012

Submittal of Proposals

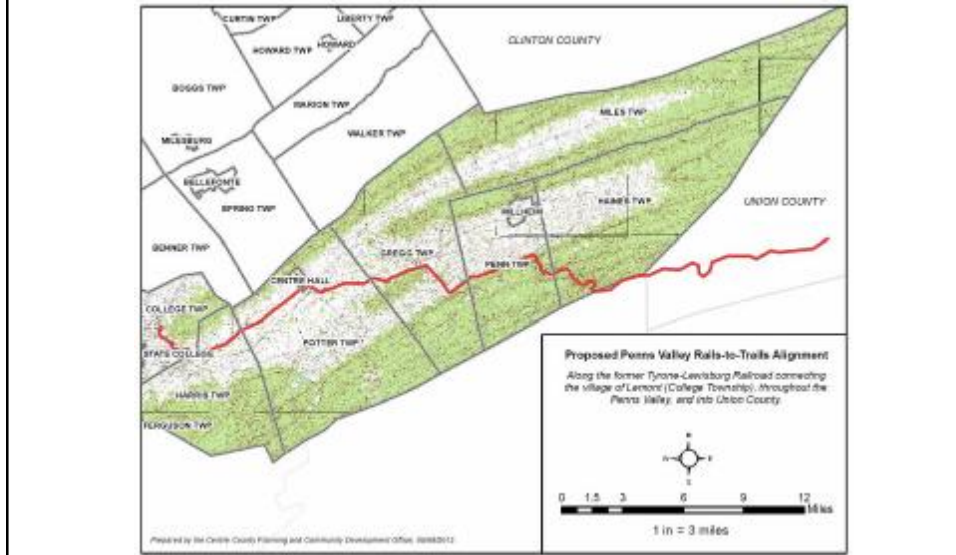
Bid proposals must be received by Gregg Township by **1:30 pm** on **Friday, July 6th**

Proposals should be mailed to:

**Mr. Patrick Leary, Chair
Gregg Township Supervisors
PO Box 184
106 School Street
Spring Mills, PA 16875**



Scope of Work Details



Study Purpose

- Describe why the study is being conducted
- Describe the right-of-way under study
- Provide general mapping
- Identify the boundaries/limitations of the study

Legal Feasibility

- Title Search to determine ROW ownership
- Identify property owners and land owners adjoining the ROW and contact if appropriate
- Evaluate acquisition/easement agreement options

Demand for and Potential Use of Trail

- General demographics of potential trail users
- Analyze potential demand and use of trail
- Identify potential linkages/connections
- Determine compatibility of trail with adjacent land uses

Physical Inventory and Assessment of the ROW

- Detailed mapping of the alignment at an appropriate scale
- Office and field research to determine areas of concern
- Physiological analysis of the ROW
- Natural Features Inventory

Physical Inventory and Assessment of the ROW

- Wildlife Analysis
- Structure Analysis
- Infrastructure and Utilities
- Intersections & Access Points
- Environmental Concerns
- Historic Features

Trail Concept Plan

- Develop a trail concept plan and identify:
 - Location and alternate routes
 - Trailheads and related facilities
 - Single and double tread pathways (if needed)
 - Barriers and emergency access points
 - Areas needing screening/buffers
 - Linkages to community facilities, resources
 - Handicap access points/required facilities
 - Agricultural crossings
 - Possible locations for interpretive signage

Trail Concept Plan

- Develop concepts for mitigating conflicts between pedestrians and other trail users
- Identify areas for auxiliary facilities such as parking
- Identify & prepare conceptual designs for facilities required to restrict use of the path
- Prepare a phased implementation plan

Trail Operation, Maintenance & Security

- Determine ownership/maintenance/management options
- Identify potential roles for public & non-profits
- Identify areas for in-kind contributions
- Propose appropriate organizational structure for maintenance, operation & security

Trail Operation, Maintenance & Security

- Identify typical maintenance tasks, both routine and periodic
- Work with involved parties to propose individuals or groups responsible for maintenance tasks

Financial Feasibility

- Provide a cost estimate for any required acquisition or purchase of easements
- Prepare cost estimates for developing the trail and proposed facilities
- Prepare cost estimates for the phased implementation plan
- Provide typical management/maintenance budgets from similar trails

Financial Feasibility

- Develop a sample budget for staffing & maintenance as appropriate
- Identify potential sources for capital and operating costs

Public Participation

- Formation of a Study Committee (complete)
- Co-facilitate committee meetings
- Facilitate up to 4 public meetings during the study
- Conduct other public participation techniques such as key stakeholder interviews
- Document public participation

Executive Summary & Final Products

- Provide an executive summary of findings and recommendations
- Draft report of methodology, findings, recommendations and required mapping – DCNR must approve (10 copies)
- Submit 25 hard copies and 3 electronic copies of final narrative report